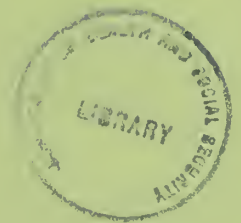


LLANDEILO  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT  
of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
and  
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
for 1970



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ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1970

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen. .

We present the Annual Report on the Environmental Health of the Urban District of Llandeilo for the year 1970.

The year has proved quite satisfactory from the general public health aspect, there being no serious incidences or outbreaks of diseases.

The single case of Food Poisoning reported was an isolated one. In such cases early notification is of great help in carrying out the investigation to prevent the spread of the infection.

Pollution over the recent years has become the "in" word, and many persons and organisations who were previously unknown or who had no special interest in the environment have been quick to join the "in" crowd. Many do not realise that Local Authority Public Health Departments have for years been dealing with pollution of the environment in its various forms, and legislation which is the responsibility of the Public Health Officers to enforce is all designed to improve the environment for the benefit of the public.

Noise is becoming increasingly important as an influence on daily life. Llandeilo with its narrow main street, which is part of the Swansea/Manchester Trunk Road, is subjected to heavy traffic. The noise created by these vehicles must be very annoying to the people working in the premises abutting the street. No measurement of the noise levels have yet been made, but this is an exercise which could be usefully undertaken.

Although no detailed housing survey has been carried out for some time, the general housing conditions in the district are good. Out of the total of 710 dwellings (134 of which are Council owned) a total of 122 Improvement Grants have been made up to the 1st April, 1970.

No specific part of the text of the report is devoted to clean air. This Urban District being located in the midst of a large rural area, the type of atmospheric pollution experienced in large industrial conurbations is unknown.

The problem of atmospheric pollution is not completely absent, and the comments previously made about the narrowness of the main street in the Town and the heavy vehicles apply in relation to the pollution created by the internal combustion engine.

Although the year has been a good year from the point of view of the general health and well being of the inhabitants, there are many aspects of environmental health work which require constant vigilance to ensure the standards already achieved are maintained, and wherever possible improved.

We wish to express our appreciation to the Chairman and Members of the Council for the interest taken in the work of the Department, and to Mr. I.J. Thomas, Clerk of the Council and the clerical staff for their help and support.

We have the honour to remain,  
Your obedient Servants

MARGARET STEANE M.B., Ch.B., D.B.H.

K.C. McCUTCHEON, M.A.P.H.I.



HEALTH COMMITTEE

(General Purposes, Plans and Water)

As from January, 1969 to May, 1970

Councillor L.A. German (Chairman  
of the Council)  
Councillor Hugh Howells (Vice-Chairman  
of the Council)  
Councillor Mrs. K. Bevan  
Councillor T.G. Beynon  
Councillor A.H.T. Boot  
Councillor J.M.B. Lewis  
Councillor R.H. Llewelyn  
Councillor W.E. Whittingham  
Councillor D.R. Williams

As from May, 1970 to April, 1971.

Councillor Hugh Howells (Chairman of  
the Council)  
Councillor D.R. Williams (Vice-Chairman  
of the Council)  
Councillor Mrs. K. Bevan  
Councillor L.A. German  
Councillor I. Gwyn.  
Councillor B.A. Hodge  
Councillor D.G. Hughes  
Councillor Mrs. P.I. Roderick  
Councillor J.O.E. Thomas, J.P.

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

MARGARET STEANE, M.B.,Ch.B., D.P.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

K.C. McCUTCHION, M.A.P.H.I.

CLERICAL ASSISTANT:

MRS. T. REES.

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GENERAL INFORMATION1970

Area of District	311 acres
Estimated Mid. Year Population in Llandeilo U.D.	1,910
Estimated Mid. Year Population in England and Wales	48,987,700
Number of Persons per acre	6.14
Number of Private Domestic Premises (Houses, Flats etc.)	513
Number of Business Premises with living accommodation	63
Number of Council owned dwellings (inclusive of 16 purpose-built dwellings for the elderly persons)	134
Total Number of dwellings	710
Number of Buildings completed during 1970:	
(a) By the Council	NIL
(b) By private builders	NIL
Rateable value as at 1st April, 1970	£55,304
Net Product of a penny rate (69/70)	£216
Number of Burial Grounds	1
Number of Burial Grounds owned by the Council	NIL

POPULATION OF LLANDEILO URBAN DISTRICT

The population of Llandeilo gained 30 inhabitants during the last year. There was one fewer death and ten more births than in 1969.

TABLE OF POPULATION - BIRTHS AND DEATHS 1965 - 1970

Year	Number of Persons	Deaths	Births	Population of Carmarthen- shire.	Population of Wales
1961	1906 (Census)	-	-	-	-
1965	1930	26	27	-	-
1966	1930	27	30	-	-
1967	1900	29	24	-	-
1968	1900	30	20	-	-
1969	1880	27	16	163,600	2,723,000
1970	1910	26	26	164,300	2,734,000

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BIRTHS

There were 26 live births during 1970 compared with 16 in 1969.

		Males	Females	Total	Carns.	England & Wales
Live Births	Legitimate	9	16	25	2,066	719,738
	Illegitimate	0	1	1	93	64,744
	Total:	9	17	26	2,159	784,482
Still Births	Legitimate	0	0	0	38	9,297
	Illegitimate	0	0	0	5	1,044
	Total:	0	0	0	43	10,341
Total Live and Still Births	Legitimate	9	16	25	2,104	729,035
	Illegitimate	0	1	1	98	65,788
	Total:	9	17	26	2,202	794,823

LIVE BIRTH RATES ETC.

	Llandeilo	Carmarthenshire	England & Wales
Live births per 1,000 home population crude rate	13.6	13.1	16.0
Area comparability factor	1.16	1.09	1.00
Local adjusted rate	15.8	14.3	16.0
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	0.99	0.89	1.00
Illegitimate live births as a percentage of all live births	4	4	8

STILL BIRTH RATE

	Llandeilo	Carmarthenshire	England & Wales
Still births per 1,000 total live and still births	0	20	13



MORTALITY RATE

It is pleasing to report that there were no deaths resulting from childbirth or pregnancy during 1970 in the Llandeilo Urban District.

DEATHS OF INFANTS

AGE		Male	Female	Total	Carms.	England & Wales
Under 1 Year	Legitimate	0	0	0	42	12,592
	Illegitimate	0	0	0	3	1,677
	Total:	0	0	0	45	14,269
Under 4 weeks	Legitimate	0	0	0	29	8,548
	Illegitimate	0	0	0	2	1,115
	Total:	0	0	0	31	9,663
Under 1 week	Legitimate	0	0	0	25	7,343
	Illegitimate	0	0	0	2	985
	Total:	0	0	0	27	8,328

INFANT MORTALITY RATE

	Llandeilo	Carmarthenshire	England & Wales
Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births	0	21	18
Deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 legitimate live births.	0	20	17
Deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 illegitimate live births	0	32	26
Neonatal mortality rate. Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births	0	14	12
Early neonatal mortality rate Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births	0	13	11
Perinatal mortality rate Still births and deaths under 1 week combined, per 1,000 total live and still births	0	32	23





DEATHS

	Male	Female	Total	Carns.	England & Wales
All Ages	15	11	26	2,418	575,208

DEATH RATES ETC. ALL AGES

	Llandeilo	Carmarthenshire	England & Wales
Deaths per 1,000 home population (crude rate)	13.6	14.7	11.7
Area comparability factor	.85	1.00	1.00
Local adjusted rate	11.6	14.7	11.7
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	.99	1.26	1.00

There were 26 deaths in Llandeilo during 1970. Of these, six occurred between the ages of 65-74 years, and 11 at 75 years or over.

Eight deaths were caused by malignant neoplasms, two more than in 1969, and 13 from diseases of the circulatory system, four fewer than the previous year.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1970ALL AGES

Cause of Death	Male	Female	Total
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity etc.	0	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	1	0	1
Malignant Neoplasm - Intestine	1	0	1
Malignant Neoplasm, - Lung, Bronchus	1	0	1
Other malignant neoplasms	1	3	4
Diabetes Mellitus	1	0	1
Ischaemic Heart disease	4	0	4
Other forms of heart disease	2	1	3
Cerebrovascular disease	1	3	4
Other diseases of circulatory system	0	2	2
Influenza	3	0	3
Bronchitis and emphysema	0	1	1
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	15	11	26





NOTIFIABLE DISEASESFOOD POISONING

One case of Gastroenteritis, due to the organism Salmonella Typhimurium, in an eight year old child was reported.

No cases of other infectious diseases were reported.

INFLUENZA

The influenza epidemic which occurred in November 1969 continued into 1970 and reached its peak in the second and third week of January and fell off rapidly in February and March.

The majority of the cases were caused by virus 'A' similar to A/2/Hong Kong variant. Llandeilo was involved in this outbreak, and three persons over 65 years of age succumbed to the disease.

IMMUNISATION

The following table relates to the County of Carmarthenshire. The separate figures for Llandeilo are not available.

	P R I M A R Y						BOOSTERS
	Born 1970	Born 1969	Born 1968	Born 1967	Born 1966	Others 'up' to 16 years	
Triple Antigen	849	509	47	18	28	7	808
Diphtheria/Tetanus	5	7	1	1	11	6	474
Tetanus	1	1	2	1	14	93	172
Poliomyelitis	872	507	61	22	34	11	629
Measles	3	119	123	81	132	23	-
Rubella	-	-	-	-	-	27	-

SMALLPOX VACCINATION (WHOLE COUNTY)

Age at date of vaccination	Number Vaccinated	Number Re-vaccinated
Under 1 year	63	0
1 Year	847	0
2 - 4 Years	118	12
5 - 15 Years	39	52



B.C.G. VACCINATION (WHOLE COUNTY)

	Contact Scheme	School Children
Number Skin Tested	96	278
Number found negative	82	230
Number vaccinated	84	193

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 SECTION 47

No action was required under this Section which enables persons in need of care and attention to be removed to suitable premises.

SERVICES AVAILABLE  
AT LLANDEILO CLINIC

	DAY	TIME
Orthopaedic Clinic (Children)	1st Tuesday in the month	10 a.m. - 1 p.m. 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Child Health Clinic	Alternate Wednesdays	2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Mothercraft & Relaxation Class	Thursday	2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Speech Therapy	Wednesdays	1:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Hearing Assessments	By Appointment	
Dental Clinic (Children & Expectant Mothers)	By Appointment	

WELFARE FOODS

Welfare foods are sold at the Clinic, Crescent Road, Llandeilo, on Wednesdays from 2 - 4 p.m.



FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

## 1. Inspection for purpose of provisions as to health.

	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Section 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by L.A.	20	3	0	0
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A.	2	0	0	0
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by L.A. (including outworkers premises.)	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	22	3	0	0

## 2. Cases in which defects found

	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	Prosecution
Want of Cleanliness	0	0	0	0	0
Overcrowding	0	0	0	0	0
Unreasonable Temperature	0	0	0	0	0
Inadequate ventilation	0	0	0	0	0
Ineffective drainage of floors	0	0	0	0	0
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	0	0	0	0	0
(b) Unsuitable	0	0	0	0	0
(c) Not separate for sexes	0	0	0	0	0
Other offences (not including offences relating to outwork)	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0







## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

### WATER

The supply of water to the Town was obtained from two sources, namely, Llandyfan Spring and the Llandeilo Rural District Council's supply.

The Llandyfan Spring is situated 5 miles from the Town at 480 ft. A.O.D. and 193 feet above the highest point of the Town. The supply is derived from a spring in the limestone stratum, with an estimated overflow of 1,000,000 gallons per day.

The supply from this source is conveyed by gravitation to the Town in 5" cast iron pipes. The Llandyfan main is 66 years old.

The Llandyfan supply is chlorinated by a Wallace and Tiernan Plant at Derwydd.

Part of the Llandeilo Rural District is still supplied from the Llandyfan source and part of the Urban District receives a supply from the Rural District trunk main to which the town mains are connected.

Routine checks are taken to determine the efficiency of the chlorination of the supply.

In February the Llandyfan source became extremely discoloured and was found to contain considerable suspended matter. Arrangements were made to receive water from the Llanelli and District Water Board to the mains of which the Town mains are connected. The discolouration occurred immediately after a period of prolonged heavy rain and a sample of water was submitted for chemical examination, the observations of the analyst being given below:-

"This water was alkaline in reaction and had a Calcium Carbonate content of 176 parts per million. It would thus be classified as a moderately hard water. Almost all this hardness was temporary in nature.

The solids in suspension were entirely mineral in character and consisted predominantly of siliceous particles the size of which varied between 5 - 15 microns. Living and dead organisms were absent.

The size and nature of the particles forming the suspended solids showed that they were not derived from soil or argillaceous matter carried from the surface by flood water, or pipe corrosion products, but more likely in our view to be derived from the substrata.

Disintegrated rock could have been scoured from places not normally reached by the water underground, and if this is the case the turbidity will diminish as the water level recedes.

The water was of good organic quality with no evidence of the presence of contamination by animal or vegetable matter."

A routine chemical analysis revealed that lead was not present and the amount of Fluoride was 0.09 p.p.m.

It was necessary to draw the attention of the Public to the dangers of using water for drinking purposes from a Baptistry spring in the wall of the Parish Church.



## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The sewers of the Town are combined, taking both sewage and surface water. The sewers serve the Town with the exception of 15 properties in Carmarthen Road and Nantyrhibo area. The sewers are constructed in stoneware pipes and culverts, the treatment being carried out at the Joint Sewage Works at Ffairfach.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING

As reported last year, the paper sack system of refuse storage, having been implemented, became well accepted by the householders and few problems arose.

It was decided to experiment with plastic sacks instead of paper sacks. No difficulties were experienced and the plastic sacks were accepted by the householders without question.

Up until the middle of the year the collection of house refuse had been carried out on two days each week, part of the town being dealt with on each day. Following an assessment of the work, an agreement was reached with the workmen involved and the whole town was collected on one day. This arrangement has proved beneficial to the Authority and the workmen.

Trade refuse is collected once each week and a charge is made for this service.

Special arrangements are made for the collection of bulky items of house refuse, and as this service is free, it no doubt helps to prevent the indiscriminate dumping of such items as bedsteads etc., on vacant land and in ditches. There is comparatively very little indiscriminate dumping in the area but it does appear that some people still prefer to surreptitiously dispose of old prams and other debris rather than make use of the free collection service provided.

With regard to the disposal of the collected refuse it cannot be reported as being satisfactory, in fact the only good thing about the tip is its distance from any large number of houses.

The tip is located outside the Urban Area on land privately owned, and is used by the Council and also other persons. Tipping is crude and work had to be carried out to culvert water courses which ran through the tipping area. During the year a major infestation by rats occurred and by the very nature of the tip effective control of the rats was extremely difficult.

The Council have been made aware of the circumstances but the problems involved in obtaining satisfactory control of tipping methods are many. The conditions prevailing will not be improved until the control of the tip is carried out in accordance with recognised methods.

## RODENT CONTROL

The Council employs one of the workmen to carry out disinfection as and when required. No charge is made in respect of business premises.

The following are details of the work carried out:-





	<u>Non Agricultural</u>	<u>Agricultural</u>
Number of properties inspected following notification	38	-
Number of properties infested by rats	33	-
Number of properties infested by mice	5	-
Number of properties treated	38	0

A total of 109 visits were made in connection with treatment work.

As mentioned under the heading of Public Cleansing a major infestation of the refuse tip proved very difficult to deal with to ensure complete eradication of the rodents. The main reason for this being the uncontrolled nature of the tip and the variety of foods available to the rodents.

It was not found necessary to carry out a sewer treatment.

If the necessary labour was available more attention could be given to rodent control work, a branch of Public Health work the importance of which is not often appreciated.

#### FOOD AND FOOD HYGIENE

One case of food poisoning was reported during the year and this was fully investigated.

The need for continued vigilance to ensure good hygiene in premises and among food handlers is ever present, not only from Public Health Staff but from the shopping public. Persons not satisfied with the cleanliness of tables and crockery in cafes for example, should complain to the management. I am certain that if more people were prepared to "speak up" about unhygienic practices rather than "put up" with them then the food handling and hygiene would improve.

The following types of food business were carried on in the district at 39 premises.

Sale of Ice Cream	17
Sale of Grocery and Provisions	13
Sale of Bread	10
Bakehouses	3
Sale of Greengrocery and fruit	10
Fish and Chips	1
Licensed Premises	12
Hotels	6
Restaurants, Cafes etc.	5
Sale of Confectionery and sweets	16

Attention was again paid to Mobile Food vehicles and informal action was taken to secure improvements in food handling methods.

Two samples of ice cream were taken for bacteriological examination, one was given Provisional Grade 4 and one Provisional Grade 2.

Three samples of cooked meats proved to be satisfactory.





The following foodstuffs were surrendered by the owners:-

67 Chickens	weight	222 lbs.
1 Duck	"	4 lbs.
Chicken Portions	"	18 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.
1 Tin Corned Beef	"	6 lbs.
Cooked Ham	"	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Sausages	"	7 lbs.
Beef	"	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Tongue	"	3 lbs.
Chopped Ham	"	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Pork	"	$\frac{3}{4}$ lb.
Pate	"	$\frac{3}{4}$ lb.
Total Weight		273 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.

### HOUSING

#### STATISTICS

1. Number of new permanent houses erected during the year:-
  - (a) By local authority NIL
  - (b) By other bodies or persons NIL
2. Number of new permanent houses under construction during the year:-
  - (a) By local authority NIL
  - (b) By other bodies or persons 1
3. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year:-
  - (1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 8
  - (2) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 1
4. Remedy of Defects during the year without the service of Notices:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 6
5. Action Under Statutory Powers during the Year:-
  - A. Proceedings under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1957
    - (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs. NIL
    - (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal Notices.
      - (a) By owners NIL
      - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners NIL
      - (c) Outstanding at 31st December, 1970. NIL



B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | NIL |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:          |     |
| (a) By owners  | NIL |
| (b) By occupiers   | NIL |
| (c) By Local Authority in default of owners  | NIL |
| (d) Outstanding at 31st December, 1970   | NIL |

C. Proceedings under Section 16 and 17 of the Housing Act, 1957

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made   | NIL |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in Clearance Area  | NIL |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted from the owners.                                | 1   |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit. | NIL |

D. Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made.  | NIL |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit. | NIL |

E. Housing Act, 1957 - Part IV:-

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| (1) (a) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year   | NIL |
| (b) Number of families dwelling therein  | NIL |
| (c) Number of persons dwelling therein   | NIL |
| (2) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year   | NIL |
| (3) (a) Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year   | NIL |
| (b) Number of persons concerned in such cases  | NIL |
| (4) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding | NIL |
| (5) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions  | NIL |

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Five applications for Improvement Grants were received during the year and the work involved in 3 grants was completed.



OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The total number of premises registered under the Act is 46, and the number of persons employed in these premises was 197, comprising 89 males and 108 females.

One General Inspection was carried out during the year and 27 other inspections were made in connection with works being undertaken to remedy contraventions of the Act at various premises.

No notifications of accidents were received.

PETROLEUM (REGULATIONS) ACTS 1928 AND 1936

Twelve premises are licensed for the Storage of Petroleum Spirit and inspections were made of all premises. The conditions attached to the licences were reviewed and amended and informal action taken in 11 cases to bring the method of storage in line with the licence conditions.

CARAVAN SITES

There are two licensed Caravan Sites within the Urban Area. One site being licensed for 7 caravans and the other for one caravan.

Both sites are residential sites.

Nine visits were made to the largest site, the operation of which was being carried out in an unsatisfactory manner. Towards the end of the year legal proceedings were taken against the site owner for failure to comply with the licence conditions, but the case was not heard during 1970.









